In re Application of:

LOWE et al.

Serial No.: (not yet assigned)

Filed: September 27, 2001

Art Unit: (not yet assigned)

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

Atty. Docket No.: 01-313-US-D

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ELECTRONICALLY PROCESSING INVOICE INFORMATION

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

Commissioner for Patents **BOX PATENT APPLICATION** Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Kindly amend the above-referenced application as

follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the Title, prior to the first paragraph, please add the following paragraph:

--This application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/161,892 filed September 28, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,298,218, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 08/769,774, filed December 18, 1996.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please cancel claims 1-58 and 66-84 before calculating the filing fees.

REMARKS

This amendment enters the required continuing status information into the application and reduces the number of claims for fee calculation purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 27, 2001

Cheryl L. Gastineau

Reg. No. 39,469

REED SMITH LLP

P.O. Box 488

Pittsburgh, PA 15230

(412) 288-4152

Agent for Applicants